

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1710 without my signature.

Although I support the intent of this bill to clarify the manner in which temporary service employers must pay wages, I cannot support the provision of this bill which expands liability regarding workers' compensation coverage.

As written, this bill imposes joint and severe liability relative for workers' compensation coverage on employers that contract with staffing agencies. This would be a significant departure from the exclusive remedy of current law, which provides that an injured worker cannot sue their employer in civil court. Exclusive remedy is one of the most fundamental principles of the California workers' compensation system. I cannot support a measure that deviates from this principle.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger